Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Kazakhstan's human rights violations and "shooting without warning" must be internationally investigated

Written declaration No. 734

This written declaration does not reflect the position of the Assembly; only of those members that have signed it. It will not be considered further by the Assembly.

We, the undersigned, declare the following:

We condemn the Kazakh Government-sponsored disinformation campaign about 20 000 unidentified terrorists who are allegedly responsible for inciting unrest to justify the internet and telecommunications blackouts, the massive persecution, torture of activists Berik Abishov, Yerbol Borlibay and human rights defenders, Raigul Sadyrbayeva and Aliya Isenova.

President Tokayev's order to "shoot people without warning", among them very peaceful protesters and citizens described as international terrorists, violates Kazakhstan's international obligations and should be revoked immediately.

The deployment of troops from the Collective Security Treaty Organisation, a military bloc led by the Russian Federation, to Kazakhstan on official request based on wrong information to assist the Kazakh Government against protesters is unacceptable and should be investigated internationally. The 10 000 arbitrarily detained protesters and political prisoners, such as Bekizhan Mendygaziev, Yerulan Amirov, Kairat Klyshev, Saltanat Kusmankyzy, must be released unconditionally.

Kazakhstan uses extra-judicial methods of persecution abroad and abuses mechanisms of legal co-operation against individuals associated with the opposition movement Democratic Choice of Kazakhstan and its leader Mukhtar Ablyazov, such as Zamanbek Tleuliyev, Yeldos Nasipbekov, Tatiana Paraskevich, Bota Jardemali.

We stand by the recommendations of the European Parliament in its resolution on the situation in Kazakhstan, adopted on 20 January 2022, and call for an international investigation and reviewing sanctions on high-level Kazakh officials.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

SCHWABE Frank, Germany, SOC
BAYR Petra, Austria, SOC
BOER Margreet, De, Netherlands, SOC
CASTEL Laura, Spain, UEL
CORBYN Jeremy, United Kingdom, SOC
ENGELHARDT Heike, Germany, SOC
EROTOKRITOU Christiana, Cyprus, SOC
FRIDEZ Pierre-Alain, Switzerland, SOC
GAHOUCHI Latifa, Belgium, SOC
GASIUK-PIHOWICZ Kamila, Poland, EPP/CD
GIOVAGNOLI Gerardo, San Marino, SOC
LLOYD Tony, United Kingdom, SOC
LUCKS Max, Germany, SOC
MARILOTTI Gianni, Italy, SOC
NOWACKA Barbara, Poland, NR
POLAT Filiz, Germany, SOC
RAMPI Roberto, Italy, SOC
RÖSSNER Tabea, Germany, SOC
ŚMISZEK Krzysztof, Poland, SOC
TÜRK-NACHBAUR Derya, Germany, SOC
ŽIAK Miroslav, Slovak Republic, EC/DA

Total = 21

1. EC/DA: European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance
   EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
   SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
   UEL: Group of the Unified European Left
   NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group